

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claim 34; rejected claims 34 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Huang et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,162,686; objected to claim 37 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but indicated that it would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the elements of the base claim and any intervening claims; and allowed claims 1, 2, 5-23, 30-32, 35, and 38-44¹.

By this Amendment, Applicants cancel claims 34 and 36, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof. Accordingly, the objection to claim 34 and the rejections of claims 34 and 36 under section 102(e) are rendered moot.

Furthermore, Applicants rewrite claim 37 in independent form including all the elements of claim 36. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection to claim 37 and allow this claim.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request timely allowance of the pending claims.


¹ The Office Action Summary, form PTO 326, indicated that claims 1, 2, 5-23, 30-32, 35, and 38-44 were allowed, claims 34 and 36 were rejected under section 102(e), and claim 37 was objected to. However, the Office Action text indicated that claims 34-36 were rejected and failed to indicate any objection to claim 37. During a telephonic conference on November 12, 2003, the Examiner indicated that claim 35 was incorrectly referenced in the rejection under section 102(e) and was in fact allowed as indicated in the Office Action Summary. Furthermore, the Examiner indicated that claim 37 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but indicated that it would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the elements of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: November 13, 2003

By: 
Bryan S. Latham
Reg. No. 49,085

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com